

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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February 5, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*

SUBJECT: U. S. Position for ENDC

The Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC) is scheduled to resume its deliberations on March 6, 1969, in Geneva.

In addition to the NPT and the strategic arms limitation talks, the agenda for the meeting includes the following complex arms control issues on which the Administration does not now have a position: the comprehensive test ban; cut-off of production of fissionable material for nuclear weapons use; arms control on the seabed; and chemical and biological warfare. There will be considerable pressure on the U. S. Delegation to establish its current position on these and other important issues which have long been included in the general U. S. position on arms control. The problem is complicated by the fact that there appear to be major differences on all of these issues within the U. S. Government.

I believe that, prior to the resumption of the ENDC, these issues should be reviewed by the NSC since they have such far-reaching security implications.

The staffing of these issues does not fit within any of the permanent groups established so far under the NSC. The Committee of Principals, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of State, which previously handled these matters has not been continued. I recommend, therefore, that an ad hoc NSC group, under the chairmanship of the Director of ACDA with representatives of the appropriate agencies, be established to prepare a paper for the NSC's consideration on an urgent basis. If you approve, I have prepared the attached NSSM.

Approve NSC meeting on the ENDC *AK*

Disapprove _____

Other _____

Approve NSSM establishing ad hoc NSC group *AK*

Disapprove _____

Other _____

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